



State of Arizona

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Governor Jan Brewer Names Maricopa County Superior Court Appointees

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer has appointed Commissioner Pamela Svoboda and Deputy County Attorney Bradley Astrowsky to the Maricopa County Superior Court.

“With more than 20 years of legal experience and extensive judicial know-how as a court commissioner, including an impressive background handling felony jury cases, Pamela is a very welcome addition to the bench,” said Governor Brewer. “Pamela’s temperament, demeanor and legal ability make her well-suited to serve Maricopa County.”

Ms. Svoboda has been a Commissioner for the Maricopa County Superior Court since 2005. In this capacity, she is responsible for managing hundreds of felony aggravated DUI cases, and has presided over more than 100 felony trials.

Ms. Svoboda previously worked at the Arizona Attorney General’s Office (1995-2005). She was promoted to Chief Counsel of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit in 1998, where she supervised a staff of 13 people and a \$1.2 million federal budget. While at the Attorney General’s Office, Ms. Svoboda participated in AZPOST training and conducted upwards of 25 trainings a year regarding the investigation and prosecution of Medicaid fraud and abuse, as well as neglect and exploitation of those in Medicaid-funded facilities. In 1998, she was named Prosecutor of the Year by the Attorney General’s Office. In 2002, her unit received the State Fraud Award and was recognized as an Outstanding Medicaid Fraud Control Unit by the U.S. Government. From 1990-1995, Pamela worked at the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office, where she was responsible for handling juvenile crimes, vehicular crimes and general felony dockets.

Ms. Svoboda received her undergraduate degree from Smith College in Massachusetts (1984). She received her law degree from the Sandra Day O’Connor School of Law at Arizona State University, and has been licensed to practice law in Arizona since 1990.

Governor Brewer has also appointed Deputy County Attorney Bradley Astrowsky to the Maricopa County Superior Court.

“Brad brings to the bench well-rounded civil and criminal law experience, including extensive trial work. His background working with issues involving children and victims is especially important in Arizona right now,” said Governor Brewer. “In addition to a breadth of legal expertise, he possesses a genuine appreciation for separation of powers, judicial restraint and victims’ rights that well-equip him to serve with distinction.”

Mr. Astrowsky returned as a Maricopa County Deputy Attorney in 2010. Serving in the Family Violence Bureau, he is charged with handling cases regarding child homicides, child abuse, domestic violence and vulnerable adult cases. He also is an associate counsel for cases involving the death penalty.

Previously, Mr. Astrowsky practiced law with Astrowsky & Ghelfi, PLLC (2010); Wilkes & McHugh (2006-2010); Zimmerman Reed (2005-2006); the National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse (1999-2000); Maricopa County Attorney's Office (1995-2005); and Ak-Chin Indian Community (1995). Mr. Astrowsky also has served as Judge Pro Tem and assisted in drafting the current versions of Arizona's Identity Theft, Child Exploitation and Computer Tampering statutes. He has served as Bureau Chief of several bureaus within the County Attorney's Office, and created the Identity Theft Investigator's Association.

In 1999, Mr. Astrowsky was honored with a Special Recognition Award for the first successful prosecution of a computer-related sex crime. In 2004, he received the Cooperative Law Enforcement Award from the U.S. Department of Justice for his service in the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

Additionally, Mr. Astrowsky has been a volunteer member of the Anti-Defamation League's Civil Rights Committee since 2001, and has taught criminal law classes to state and national groups.

Mr. Astrowsky received his undergraduate degree from State University of New York (1991). He earned his law degree from the College of Law at the University of Arizona, and has been licensed to practice in Arizona since 1995.

Commissioner Pamela Svoboda and Deputy County Attorney Bradley Astrowsky have been appointed to fill the vacancies created by the retirement of Judges Linda Akers and Raymond Lee.

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